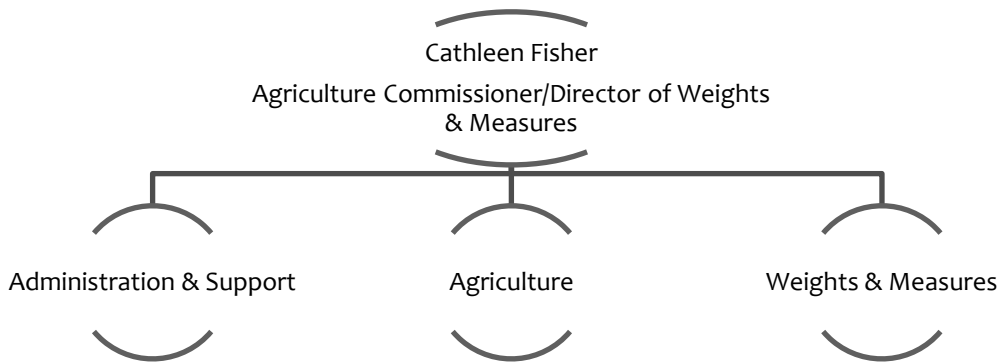


Agricultural Commissioner



BUDGET & FULL-TIME EQUIVALENTS SUMMARY & BUDGET PROGRAMS CHART

Operating	\$ 5,145,771
Capital	\$ 60,000
FTEs	33.0



Agricultural Commissioner

Department

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Agricultural Commissioner's Office is to improve and protect agriculture, natural resources, and the quality of life in Santa Barbara County.

DEPARTMENT DESCRIPTION

The Agricultural Commissioner's Office enforces laws and regulations in our agricultural and weights & measures programs. The Pesticide use enforcement and pest prevention are the main components of the Agriculture budget program. These programs are designed to ensure the safe and legal use of pesticides and to prevent the introduction of harmful exotic pests. The Department also issues over 9,000 Phytosanitary certificates a year that enable local agricultural products to enter the global marketplace.

The Weights & Measures budget program protects businesses and consumers by ensuring fairness in the marketplace. Inspectors check the accuracy of over 6,500 commercial devices in the County each year and check over 750 stores with point-of-sale (scanner) systems for pricing accuracy.

The Department also provides education and outreach to farmers, farm workers, businesses and the public on regulatory compliance, integrated pest management, reduced risk pesticide use, and pests of concern.

Additionally, the Department has a contract with the University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) for \$162,000. This funding helps support the services of their Farm Advisors, Master Gardener Program, 4-H Program, and their Youth and Adult Nutrition Education Program.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2016-18 OBJECTIVES

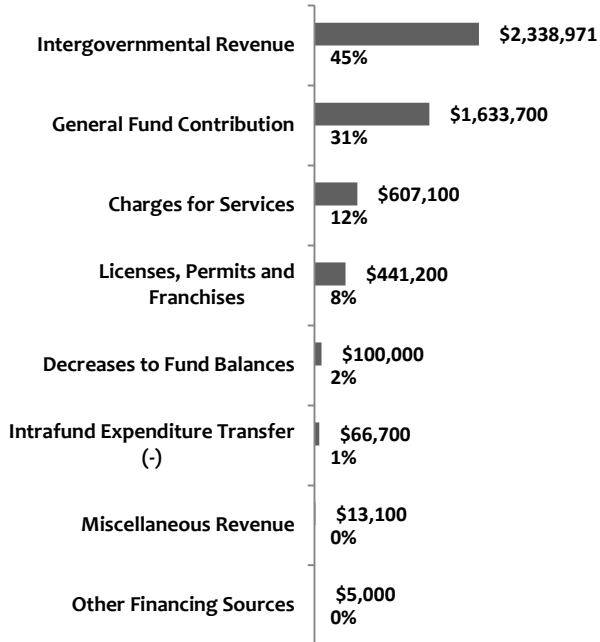
- The department was awarded a contract for a detection dog team program through the California Department of Food and Agriculture fully funded by the Federal Farm Bill. This dog team will enhance current department inspection and detection activities of plant material entering the County through parcel delivery facilities such as the United States Postal Service, United Parcel Service and Federal Express.
- Assure staff is prepared to become certified through the U.S. Department of Agriculture Export Services program as Accredited Certifying Officials for the U.S. Department of Agriculture and provide phytosanitary certification services to the local agricultural industry in order to export their products to other countries.
- Increase consumer protection by adding a credit card theft device inspection procedure to existing retail motor fuel meter (gas pumps) annual inspection program.
- Achieve 100% pesticide use reporting by the agricultural and pest control industry directly into the CalAg System.

Agricultural Commissioner

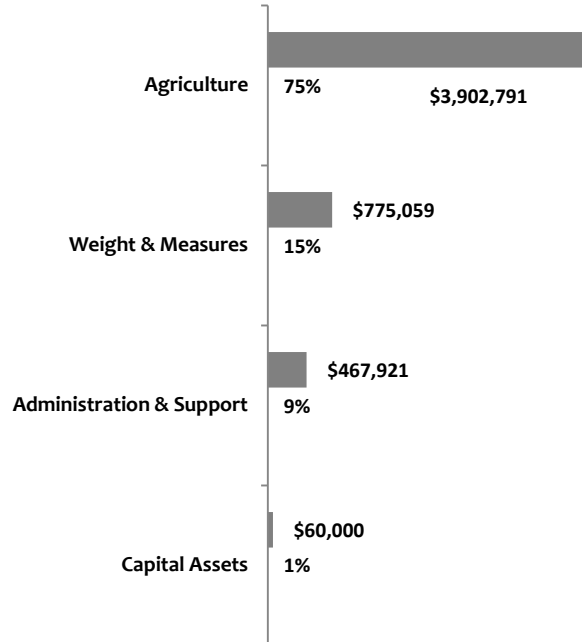
Department

RECOMMENDED SOURCES & USES OF FUNDS

Source of Funds - \$5,205,771

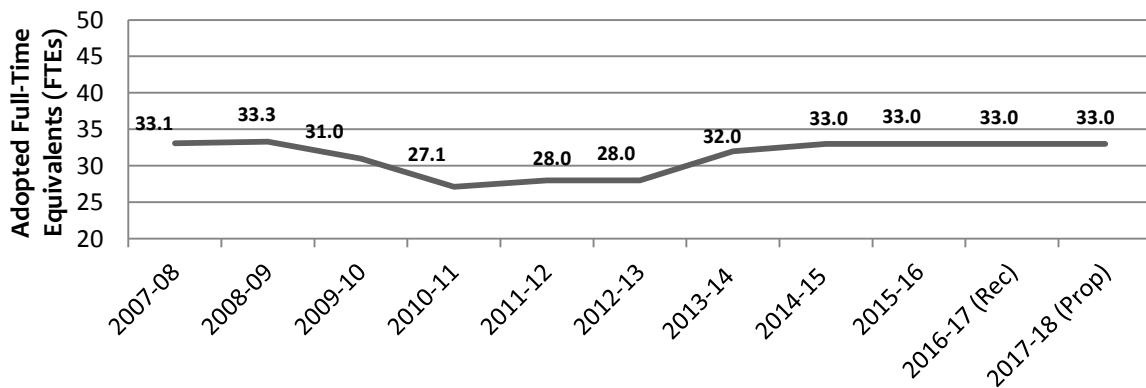


Use of Funds - \$5,205,771



STAFFING TREND

The staffing trend values will differ from prior year budget books in order to show amounts without the impact of any vacancy factors.



Agricultural Commissioner

Department

BUDGET OVERVIEW

Staffing Detail By Budget Program	2014-15 Actual	2015-16 Adopted	Change from FY15-16 Ado to FY16-17 Rec	2016-17 Recommended	2017-18 Proposed
Administration & Support	1.92	2.30	(0.29)	2.02	2.02
Agriculture	23.78	24.13	1.22	25.35	25.35
Weights & Measures	6.38	6.56	(0.94)	5.63	5.63
Total	32.08	33.00	(0.01)	32.99	32.99
Budget By Budget Program					
Administration & Support	\$ 359,677	\$ 372,654	\$ 95,267	\$ 467,921	\$ 492,848
Agriculture	3,396,272	3,804,925	97,866	3,902,791	4,056,673
Weights & Measures	751,375	871,519	(96,460)	775,059	874,184
Total	\$ 4,507,324	\$ 5,049,098	\$ 96,673	\$ 5,145,771	\$ 5,423,705
Budget By Categories of Expenditures					
Salaries and Employee Benefits	\$ 3,586,785	\$ 3,945,598	\$ 130,098	\$ 4,075,696	\$ 4,285,912
Services and Supplies	586,297	676,200	(17,300)	658,900	713,900
Other Charges	334,243	427,300	(16,125)	411,175	423,893
Total Operating Expenditures	4,507,324	5,049,098	96,673	5,145,771	5,423,705
Capital Assets	26,018	-	60,000	60,000	-
Other Financing Uses	108,350	-	-	-	-
Total	\$ 4,641,691	\$ 5,049,098	\$ 156,673	\$ 5,205,771	\$ 5,423,705
Budget By Categories of Revenues					
Licenses, Permits and Franchises	\$ 461,032	\$ 430,000	\$ 11,200	\$ 441,200	\$ 441,200
Intergovernmental Revenue	1,905,889	2,212,290	126,681	2,338,971	2,597,205
Charges for Services	462,582	589,300	17,800	607,100	614,300
Miscellaneous Revenue	31,740	20,300	(7,200)	13,100	13,100
Total Operating Revenues	2,861,242	3,251,890	148,481	3,400,371	3,665,805
Other Financing Sources	4,692	5,000	-	5,000	-
Intrafund Expenditure Transfers (-)	66,708	66,708	(8)	66,700	-
Decreases to Fund Balances	133,350	109,000	(9,000)	100,000	17,976
General Fund Contribution	1,575,700	1,616,500	17,200	1,633,700	1,657,900
Fund Balance Impact (-)	-	-	-	-	82,024
Total	\$ 4,641,691	\$ 5,049,098	\$ 156,673	\$ 5,205,771	\$ 5,423,705

Agricultural Commissioner

Department

CHANGES & OPERATIONAL IMPACT: 2015-16 ADOPTED TO 2016-17 RECOMMENDED

Staffing

- Net Increase of '0' FTE:
 - Current staffing level is at 33.0 FTEs.
 - As a result of our current recruitments, we will be fully staffed.
 - One staff member is working 80% of time in Agricultural Programs and 20% in the Weights & Measures Program.

Expenditures

- Net operating expenditures increase of \$97,000 due to:
 - +\$130,100 increase in Salaries and Employee Benefits reflects an increase in regular salaries and filling of all FTE vacancies and an increase in retirement, Social Security, medical insurance costs and unemployment insurance costs.
 - -\$17,300 decrease in Services and Supplies due to:
 - -\$33,300 decrease in IT Hardware Purchases.
 - -\$18,600 decrease in Special Projects.
 - +\$11,000 increase in Contractual Services.
 - +23,600 increase in Other Services and Supplies.
 - -\$16,100 decrease in Other Charges for Utilities and Other Services.
- Net non-operating expenditure increase of \$60,000.
 - +\$60,000 increase Capital Assets due to purchase of equipment for the Weights & Measures program.

These changes result in Recommended operating expenditures of \$5,145,771, non-operating expenditures of \$60,000 and total expenditures of \$5,205,771. Non-operating expenditure primarily include capital assets.

Revenues

- Net operating revenue increase of \$148,000 due to:
 - +\$126,000 increase in Intergovernmental Revenue for our agricultural programs
 - +\$18,000 increase in Charges for Services due to an increase in Phytosanitary Certifications and in Certified Producer Certifications.
 - +\$11,000 increase in Licenses, Permits and Franchises due to new businesses being added to the Weights and Measures database.
 - -\$7,000 decrease in Miscellaneous Revenue due to less activity in the CalPEATS and CalAg Technical Advisory Committee.

These changes result in Recommended operating revenues of \$3,400,371, non-operating revenues of \$1,805,400 and total revenues of \$5,205,771. Non-operating revenues primarily include General Fund Contribution and transfers from another department.

Agricultural Commissioner

Department

CHANGES & OPERATIONAL IMPACT: 2016-17 RECOMMENDED TO 2017-18 PROPOSED

Operating expenditures in FY 2017-2018 are expected to increase \$278,000, primarily in the area of Salaries and Employee Benefits due to increases in retirement and health insurance costs and Other Charges primarily due to increases in utility charges and increases in motor pool charges.

Operating revenue is projected to increase by \$265,000 primarily due to increased State revenue for agricultural programs.

Non-operating revenue is expected to have a decrease of \$136,000 due to a reduction of Interfund and Fund Balance transfers offset by an increase in the general fund contribution allocation formula.

The combination of increased operating expenditures and an increase in operating and non-operating revenue in FY 2016-2017 will result in a projected budget deficit of \$82,000 in order to maintain existing service levels.

RELATED LINKS

For more information on the Agricultural Commissioner, refer to the website at <http://www.agcommissioner.com>.

Agricultural Commissioner

Department

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Description	FY 2013-14 Actual	FY 2014-15 Actual	FY 2015-16 Estimated Actual	FY 2016-17 Recommend	FY 2017-18 Proposed
Administration & Support					
Percent of 1700 Weights & Measures registration permits processed	100% 1,700/1,700	100% 1,700/1,700	100% 1,700/1,700	100% 1,700/1,700	100% 1,750/1,750
Percent of Agricultural Commissioner's Office deposits processed error free	98% 192/195	100% 101/101	100% 140/140	100% 140/140	100% 200/200
Percent of pesticide use report data entry and filing without error	99.9% 33,352/33,354	100% 30,000/30,000	100% 20,000/20,000	100% 15,000/15,000	100% 10,000/10,000
Percent of departmental Employee Performance Reviews (EPRs) completed by the due date	Not Used in Prior Years	48% 16/33	100% 45/45	100% 33/33	100% 33/33
Agriculture					
Percent of 9200 Phytosanitary certificates for exporting agricultural goods issued without error	99.9% 9,193/9,200	99.9% 9,191/9,200	100% 9,200/9,200	100% 9,200/9,200	100% 9,200/9,200
Percent of 400 planned pesticide monitoring inspections conducted	112% 448/400	104% 414/400	105% 420/400	100% 400/400	100% 400/400
Percent of pesticide monitoring inspections with no non-compliances	78% 349/448	80% 331/414	95% 399/420	100% 400/400	100% 400/400
Weights & Measures					
Percent of 6,500 commercial weighing and measuring devices inspected for compliance	100% 6,500/6,500	100% 6,500/6,500	100% 6,500/6,500	100% 6,500/6,500	100% 6,500/6,500
Percent of 750 business locations with point-of-sale (scanner) pricing systems inspected	55% 412/750	100% 750/750	100% 750/750	100% 750/750	100% 750/750
Percent of inspected business locations with point-of-sale pricing systems with no overcharges	80% 330/412	85% 638/750	80% 600/750	100% 750/750	100% 750/750

Agricultural Commissioner

Program

ADMINISTRATION & SUPPORT

The Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures Administration & Support are the front line staff of the department. A wide variety of essential functions are performed in support of the department's diverse programs and responsibilities.

Staffing

Staffing Detail By Budget Program	2014-15 Actual	2015-16 Adopted	Change from FY15-16 Ado to FY16-17 Rec	2016-17 Recommended	2017-18 Proposed
AG COMM/SEALER WGTS-MEAS	0.70	0.67	0.05	0.72	0.72
ASST DIRECTOR	0.15	0.02	0.64	0.66	0.66
DEPUTY DIRECTOR	-	-	0.01	0.01	0.01
TEAM/PROJECT LDR-GEN	0.18	-	0.22	0.22	0.22
EDP SYS & PROG ANLST	0.35	0.45	(0.14)	0.31	0.31
AGRI COMMISSIONER-DEPT	-	0.15	(0.11)	0.04	0.04
ADMN OFFICE PRO	0.05	1.02	(0.97)	0.04	0.04
AGRI BIOLOGIST	-	-	0.02	0.02	0.02
EXTRA HELP	0.47	-	-	-	-
Total	1.92	2.30	(0.29)	2.02	2.02

Revenue & Expenditures

Budget By Categories of Expenditures	2014-15 Actual	2015-16 Adopted	Change from FY15-16 Ado to FY16-17 Rec	2016-17 Recommended	2017-18 Proposed
Salaries and Employee Benefits	\$ 297,930	\$ 337,054	\$ 85,260	\$ 422,314	\$ 447,038
Services and Supplies	28,505	14,000	7,600	21,600	21,600
Other Charges	33,242	21,600	2,407	24,007	24,210
Total Operating Expenditures	359,677	372,654	95,267	467,921	492,848
Total Expenditures	\$ 359,677	\$ 372,654	\$ 95,267	\$ 467,921	\$ 492,848
Budget By Categories of Revenues					
Intergovernmental Revenue	52,960	104,098	27,892	131,990	131,970
Total Operating Revenues	52,960	104,098	27,892	131,990	131,970
Other Financing Sources	4,692	5,000	-	5,000	-
Intrafund Expenditure Transfers (-)	66,708	66,708	(8)	66,700	-
General Fund Contribution	67,375	80,800	183,431	264,231	360,878
Total Revenues	\$ 191,735	\$ 256,606	\$ 211,315	\$ 467,921	\$ 492,848

2015-16 Anticipated Accomplishments

Established a Safety Team to review updates to the Department's Illness Injury Policy and Procedures (IIPP), develop safety policies, investigate employee accidents and develop a database to track department safety.

Agricultural Commissioner

Program

ADMINISTRATION & SUPPORT (CONT'D)

2015-16 Anticipated Accomplishments (cont'd)

Administrative staff will continue to train agriculture businesses in the use of two online systems: California Agricultural (CalAg) Permits for pesticide use reporting and the Phytosanitary Certificate Issuance and Tracking (PCIT) system for requesting Phytosanitary certificates. Administrative staff will contact interested businesses and will conduct training over the phone, at the Department's facilities or at the business location. These trainings will allow the agricultural industry to take advantage of more efficient technologies while allowing Agricultural Biologists to increase their time in other programs.

Implemented suggestions from our County Employee Voice Survey such as mobile smart phones and alternative work schedules to improve department morale.

2016-18 Objectives

Administrative staff will continue to ensure 100% of the agricultural and pest control industry are making the transition to entering their pesticide use reports into the CalAg Permit system directly.

Also, the Administrative staff will work with the agricultural industry to ensure they are entering inspection data directly into the Phytosanitary Certificate Issuance & Tracking System.

Agricultural Commissioner

Program

AGRICULTURE

This program is divided into two main components, Pesticide Use Enforcement and Pest Prevention. These programs are designed to ensure the safe and legal use of pesticides in the agricultural and structural settings and to prevent the introduction of harmful exotic pests into this county through inspection of incoming agricultural products.

Staffing

Staffing Detail By Budget Program	2014-15 Actual	2015-16 Adopted	Change from FY15-16 Ado to FY16-17 Rec	2016-17 Recommended	2017-18 Proposed
AG COMM/SEALER WGTS-MEAS	0.28	0.30	(0.15)	0.15	0.15
ASST DIRECTOR	0.92	0.95	(0.67)	0.28	0.28
DEPUTY DIRECTOR	0.20	-	0.01	0.01	0.01
TEAM/PROJECT LDR-GEN	0.82	-	0.78	0.78	0.78
EDP SYS & PROG ANLST	0.57	0.50	0.12	0.62	0.62
AGRI COMMISSIONER-DEPT	1.45	2.85	(0.89)	1.96	1.96
ADMN OFFICE PRO	2.25	1.69	0.95	2.64	2.64
AGRICULTURAL INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMEN	-	-	1.00	1.00	1.00
PLANT PATHOLOGIST	1.00	0.50	(0.50)	-	-
ENTOMOLOGIST	1.00	0.50	(0.50)	-	-
AGRI BIOLOGIST SUPV	1.88	2.00	-	2.00	2.00
WGTS-MEASURES INSP	0.28	-	1.04	1.04	1.04
AGRI BIOLOGIST	10.68	14.00	(0.02)	13.98	13.98
ADMN OFFICE PRO SR	0.66	0.84	0.04	0.89	0.89
EXTRA HELP	1.79	-	-	-	-
Total	23.78	24.13	1.22	25.35	25.35

Revenue & Expenditures

Budget By Categories of Expenditures	2014-15 Actual	2015-16 Adopted	Change from FY15-16 Ado to FY16-17 Rec	2016-17 Recommended	2017-18 Proposed
Salaries and Employee Benefits	\$ 2,651,298	\$ 2,894,625	\$ 108,498	\$ 3,003,123	\$ 3,148,328
Services and Supplies	532,613	590,100	2,000	592,100	597,100
Other Charges	212,361	320,200	(12,632)	307,568	311,245
Total Operating Expenditures	3,396,272	3,804,925	97,866	3,902,791	4,056,673
Capital Assets	7,924	-	-	-	-
Other Financing Uses	108,350	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$ 3,512,546	\$ 3,804,925	\$ 97,866	\$ 3,902,791	\$ 4,056,673
Budget By Categories of Revenues					
Licenses, Permits and Franchises	22,902	6,000	(1,000)	5,000	5,000
Intergovernmental Revenue	1,852,929	2,108,192	98,789	2,206,981	2,465,235
Charges for Services	453,504	576,500	21,800	598,300	605,500
Miscellaneous Revenue	19,094	10,200	(7,500)	2,700	2,700
Total Operating Revenues	2,348,428	2,700,892	112,089	2,812,981	3,078,435
Decreases to Fund Balances	113,350	9,000	(9,000)	-	-
General Fund Contribution	1,190,825	1,212,400	(122,590)	1,089,810	978,238
Total Revenues	\$ 3,652,603	\$ 3,922,292	\$ (19,501)	\$ 3,902,791	\$ 4,056,673

Agricultural Commissioner

Program

AGRICULTURE (CONT'D)

2015-16 Anticipated Accomplishments

The department, through recent recruitments is filling all vacant Agricultural Biologist positions in our Santa Barbara and Santa Maria offices.

The department's leadership team of managers and supervisors continue to meet on a regular basis for process improvement and to propose recommendations to the department's executives. The team assists with formulating policies, identifying areas of needed improvement and actively participates in the department's decision making process.

The department successfully added a new fully funded Detector Dog inspection program to the County. The program enhances our current department inspection and detection activities of plant products entering Santa Barbara County via the United States Postal Service, United Parcel Service and Federal Express delivery facilities.

A Department Deputy Agricultural Commissioner has become part of a new working group of pesticide enforcement deputies from different regions throughout the state to assist with the review and development of new and revised regulation proposals. This is the first group of its kind that has been very successful with providing the Department of Pesticide Regulation with local perspective of new regulation proposals.

The department established monthly agricultural stakeholder roundtable meetings. The meetings are intended to share information and enhance discussion about local and statewide issues that impact our agricultural industry. Stakeholders from each commodity group throughout the County are invited along with State and Federal political representatives.

Our Deputy staff is participating in a Certified Farmers' Market (CFM) statewide taskforce concentrating on recent changes in legislation and a renewed focus on enforcement. Staff is currently investigating several CFM violations. These new regulations will provide reimbursement for investigative costs.

Coordinated and participated in several invasive weed eradication projects including; completion of a Carnation Spurge removal project in Mission Canyon, continued projects to control Pampas grass along Jalama Road, Onion weed on Old San Marcos Road, Japanese Dodder in Lompoc and Artichoke Thistle along the Gaviota Coast, San Marcos Foothills and Happy Canyon. Other multi-year projects included the removal of Arundo in Carpinteria Creek, San Ynez River, Arroyo Burro Creek and Rincon Creek

Continue administrative support to the Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Department staff continues to Chair the Agricultural Preserve Advisory Committee.

Agricultural Commissioner

Program

AGRICULTURE (CONT'D)

2016-18 Objectives

Collaborate with the citrus growers, the public and beekeeper associations on outreach and education on the Asian Citrus Psyllid (ACP) pest that spreads Huanglongbing (HLB), the devastating disease of citrus trees.

Assist CDFA in monitoring the effectiveness of two biological control agents which have been released in Santa Barbara County to combat the ACP.

Assist the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) in early detection efforts by deploying and maintaining trapping equipment for the Gold-Spotted Oak Borer (GSOB), the Kuroshio Shot Hole Borer (KSHB) and the Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer (PSHB), which are deadly to hundreds of tree species including Oak and Avocado varieties.

Acquire the required licensing as Agricultural Biologists, and assure that staff is prepared to become certified through the USDA Export Services program as Accredited Certifying Officials in order to provide phytosanitary certification services to our local agricultural industry so they can export their local agricultural products.

Improve customer service for the Cuyama Valley growers, by scheduling appointments for issuance of Restricted Material permits at the Cuyama Valley Family Resource Center.

Plan and participate in the second Spray Safe Event (2017) in Santa Barbara County. This event is a commitment to safe farming developed by growers and applicators to ensure worker safety and to protect public health.

Prepare and train department staff for the November 2016 Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant Emergency Response Exercise.

Our department will participate in a newly developed CalPEAT's statewide pesticide use enforcement data management system to be implemented by 2017. This new database and technology will enable our biologists to conduct paperless pesticide use monitoring inspections using tablets in the field. This will provide greater efficiencies for the pesticide enforcement program.

Integrate our Detection Dog Team into existing inspections at all County parcel facilities. The team will also conduct public education and outreach events to emphasize the importance of preventing invasive pests from entering the County and State.

Based on feedback from commodity groups, our Agricultural Integrated Pest Management Specialist (AIPMS) will provide education and outreach by developing "tailgate" trainings targeting agricultural pest identification and IPM principles to our local industry.

Implement and maintain pesticide container recycling events throughout the county for the agriculture and pest control industry. This event is to help prevent and/or minimize plastic containers from entering the county landfills.

Agricultural Commissioner

Program

WEIGHTS & MEASURES

The Weights and Measures Program protects businesses and consumers by ensuring the consumer is receiving full and fair measure and to provide equity in the marketplace for business.

Staffing

Staffing Detail By Budget Program	2014-15 Actual	2015-16 Adopted	Change from FY15-16 Ado to FY16-17 Rec	2016-17 Recommended	2017-18 Proposed
AG COMM/SEALER WGTS-MEAS	0.02	0.03	0.10	0.13	0.13
ASST DIRECTOR	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.06	0.06
DEPUTY DIRECTOR	0.95	1.00	(0.02)	0.98	0.98
EDP SYS & PROG ANLST	0.08	0.06	0.02	0.08	0.08
ADMN OFFICE PRO	0.39	0.29	0.02	0.31	0.31
WGTS-MEASURES INSP	4.72	5.00	(1.04)	3.96	3.96
ADMN OFFICE PRO SR	0.18	0.16	(0.04)	0.11	0.11
Total	6.38	6.56	(0.94)	5.63	5.63

Revenue & Expenditures

Budget By Categories of Expenditures	2014-15 Actual	2015-16 Adopted	Change from FY15-16 Ado to FY16-17 Rec	2016-17 Recommended	2017-18 Proposed
Salaries and Employee Benefits	\$ 637,557	\$ 713,919	\$ (63,660)	\$ 650,259	\$ 690,546
Services and Supplies	25,178	72,100	(26,900)	45,200	95,200
Other Charges	88,640	85,500	(5,900)	79,600	88,438
Total Operating Expenditures	751,375	871,519	(96,460)	775,059	874,184
Capital Assets	18,094	-	60,000	60,000	-
Total Expenditures	\$ 769,469	\$ 871,519	\$ (36,460)	\$ 835,059	\$ 874,184
Budget By Categories of Revenues					
Licenses, Permits and Franchises	438,130	424,000	12,200	436,200	436,200
Charges for Services	9,078	12,800	(4,000)	8,800	8,800
Miscellaneous Revenue	12,645	10,100	300	10,400	10,400
Total Operating Revenues	459,853	446,900	8,500	455,400	455,400
Decreases to Fund Balances	20,000	100,000	-	100,000	17,976
General Fund Contribution	317,500	323,300	(43,641)	279,659	318,784
Total Revenues	\$ 797,353	\$ 870,200	\$ (35,141)	\$ 835,059	\$ 792,160

Agricultural Commissioner

Program

WEIGHTS & MEASURES (CONT'D)

2015-16 Anticipated Accomplishments

Staff inspected 100% of the commercial weighing and measuring devices in the County, resulting in a 93% compliance rate. Some of the categories of devices inspected include:

- 3,000 retail motor fuel meters (gas pumps) were inspected and resulted in a 92% compliance rate;
- 1,500 small capacity scales (grocery store scales, farmers markets, recycling and shipping scales) were inspected and resulted in a 90% compliance rate;
- 200 heavy capacity scales (vehicle scales, livestock and winery scales) were inspected and resulted in an 80% compliance rate;
- 250 taxi meters were inspected and resulted in an 82% compliance rate.

Continue undercover test purchase program and undercover California Recycle Value (CRV) sales program. The undercover test purchases are another type of price verification inspection which is intended to determine whether the business is identifying the product correctly and charging the correct advertised price. The undercover CRV inspection involves recycling businesses and is intended to determine whether a recycling business is calculating the CRV reimbursement correctly for the consumer.

Continue a working partnership with the District Attorney's (DA) office. The Deputy Sealer maintains regular communication with DA staff on our enforcement activities and the possible cooperation in future consumer protection cases.

The Department's Deputy Sealer has become part of a new working group of Weights and Measures enforcement deputies from different regions throughout the state to assist with the review and development of new and revised regulation proposals. This is the first group of its kind that has been very successful with providing the California Division of Measurement Standards with a local perspective.

Hosted compliance hearings for local businesses. These informal office hearings are intended to provide outreach and educate businesses regarding pricing and packaging requirements. The hearings are scheduled after the initial inspection discovered inaccurate pricing issues and packaging and labeling issues.

The Department's Weights & Measures Deputy Sealer has served as Chair for the Southern California Weights & Measures Deputy Association. This group serves to promote uniformity and cooperation amongst weights and measures departments to discuss and resolve local and statewide issues.

The Department's Deputy Sealer also served as a voting delegate at the 2015 National Conference of Weights and Measures and the Western Weights and Measures Conference. These conferences are a forum for debate in the development of consensus standards for commercial devices and price and quantity verifications, which are then adopted into State regulations.

Additional staff members obtained Class "B" Commercial driver's license. This license is required to drive the Department's heavy capacity weight truck which is used in the livestock, winery and vehicle scale inspection program.

Agricultural Commissioner

Program

WEIGHTS & MEASURES (CONT'D)

2016-18 Objectives

Replace the aging 20-gallon Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) inspection equipment prover unit with a more efficient and safer 25-gallon prover unit in order to ensure appropriate testing of LPG meters.

Explore other resources and venues for developing broader outreach to educate the public on the Weights and Measures program and how it affects everyone's daily lives through their consumer protection programs.

Work with other agencies on developing testing procedures for alternative energy fuel sources, such as Hydrogen, Compressed and Liquefied Natural Gas and electrical vehicle charging stations.

Continue to survey businesses, which include agricultural processing plants and wineries, to increase the number of businesses that qualify for the County Wholesale Packer Program.

The California Agricultural Commissioner's and Sealers Association (CACASA) drafted a legislative bill requiring Service Agents to submit illegal and suspicious devices found on retail motor fuel meters directly to the Agricultural Commissioner's Office or law enforcement. This new legislation along with our credit card theft device inspection procedure on retail motor fuel meters (gas pumps) is an increase in consumer protection from credit card data theft which has become a national threat to consumers nationwide.

Agricultural Commissioner

